

MARKED-UP SPECIFICATION

Please add a new section before the section titled FIELD OF THE INVENTION as shown.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is related to U.S. Patent applications bearing serial numbers 09/753,399 and 09/753,400, filed on even date herewith.

Please rewrite the paragraph beginning at line 21 of page 6 as shown.

One particularly suitable method of packet processing has been described in detail in applicant's co-pending application serial number 09/753,400, filed on even date, which is incorporated herein by reference. In brief, the method is as follows. All incoming traffic, i.e., the incoming bit stream, received on a service port, is segmented into variable-length segments. The segments can be of pre-determined fixed length or the segments can have variable length within the particular service, for example, the length of an Ethernet packet. Each segment typically includes a destination address within the source network, a source address within the source network, information representing the length or type of the frame, and data to be transmitted in the frame. In most cases, a plurality of frames make up the entire data transmission.